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***THE GOD COMMITTEE* OPENS TAPROOT THEATRE'S 2007 SEASON**  
**Regional Premiere examines life and death situation of organ transplantation**

It's a matter of life and death at St. Patrick's hospital. Seven medical professionals decide the fate of the next organ transplant. Four patients on the table. One heart. How will they decide? Science, money and morality clash in this riveting drama. *The God Committee* runs February 2 through March 3. All performances are held at Taproot Theatre at 204 N. 85<sup>th</sup> Street in Seattle. *The God Committee* is produced in partnership with the Living Legacy Foundation. At the conclusion of every performance, theatre patrons can choose to save lives by registering as organ and tissue donors. Taproot Theatre's 2007 Season partners include ArtsFund, The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, City of Seattle Office of Economic Development, 4Culture, KUOW, and PONCHO.

It's 8:07 am at St. Patrick's Metropolitan Hospital. By 9:30 am a patient will receive a new heart. Will it be a 49 year old man with HIV and no family support, a 68 year old woman with a history of attempted suicide, an overweight African American who statistically is twice as likely to have a stroke, or a 23 year old whose father has offered to donate \$50 million to the hospital? The right combination of age, social network and medical history will determine the ideal recipient. Can these medical professionals stick to the facts, or will money influence their decision? As each minute passes, new revelations about the patients detour their final decision. Can they all agree on a patient by the time the heart arrives?

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Taproot Theatre's production is staged under the direction of Producing Artistic Director, Scott Nolte. His production team includes scenic and sound designer Mark Lund, costume designer Sarah Burch Gordon, lighting designer Jody Briggs and props master Heather Poitevin. Rebecca Patterson serves as stage manager and Charissa Huff as dramaturg.

The cast of *The God Committee* features Dale Bowers as Father Charles Dunbar, Don Brady as Dr. Alex Gorman, Philip Davidson as Dr. Jack Klee, Marquam Krantz as Domenick Piero, Pam Nolte as Dr. Ann Ross, Rachel Pate as Nella Larkin and Candace Vance as Dr. Kiera Banks.

The Living Legacy Foundation increases awareness about organ donation through their education and outreach programs, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to save lives through organ and tissue donation. Living Legacy works in close partnership with Life Center Northwest, an organization facilitating organ donation and recovery throughout the Northwest in Washington, Montana, Alaska and Northern Idaho.

*The God Committee* opens February 2 and runs Wednesday through Saturday through March 3. Midweek performances begin at 7:30 PM, Saturday matinees at 2:00 PM and Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM. Low cost previews are offered Wednesday, January 31 and Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 PM. There is a special pay-what-you-can performance on Wednesday, February 7. Tickets for that performance go on sale at noon the day of performance at Taproot Theatre's box office. A dessert reception with the cast and director follows the opening night performance on Friday, February 2. Post-play discussions follow all Wednesday evening performances. On February 14, an expert panel of medical professionals, organ recipients and organ donation organization professionals will speak with the audience in a post-play discussion.

Tickets for *The God Committee* are \$25 - \$27 for midweek performances and Saturday matinees, and \$29 - \$32 for Friday and Saturday night performances. Preview performances are \$19 - \$21. Full-time students and seniors receive a \$2 discount off all general tickets. Half-price student/senior rush tickets are available fifteen minutes prior to performance, subject to availability. Group discounts are available for parties of eight or more. Tickets may be ordered by phone by calling the Taproot box office at (206) 781-9707 or Ticketmaster at (206) 292-ARTS.

Inspired by a friend's father who waited on an organ transplant list for years, Mark St. Germain created a riveting drama that many critics deem a mix between *12 Angry Men* and *ER*. *The God Committee* premiered at the Barrington Stage Company in 2004. It was then produced Off-Broadway at Lamb's Theatre. Mark St. Germain's play credits include *Camping With Henry and Tom*, which won a Outer Critics Circle Award and Lucille Lortel Award; *Out of Gas on Lover's Leap*; *Forgiving Typhoid Mary*, Time Magazine's "Year's Ten Best"; *Ears on a Beetle*, *The Gifts of the Magi*, *Johnny Pye*, *My Bernhardt Summer* and *A Plague of Angels*. His television credits include episodes for *Buddies*, *The Cosby Show* and *Lifestories*. His screenplay credit includes *Duma*. Mark is an alumnus of New Dramatists, where he was given the Joe A. Callaway Award, a member of the Dramatists Guild and the Writer's Guild East. He was awarded the "New Voices in American Theatre" award at the William Inge Theatre Festival, 2001.

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Mainstage Productions, Touring Productions and Acting Studio. Taproot exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while bringing hope to our search for meaning. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS), and the Greenwood-Phinney Chamber of Commerce.

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## TAPROOT THEATRE FACT SHEET

WHAT: *The God Committee*, by Mark St. Germain. Directed by Scott Nolte.

WHEN: Previews January 31 and February 1. Opens February 2 and runs Wednesday through Saturday through March 3. Pay What You Can Performance February 7.

WHERE: Taproot Theatre, 204 N. 85th Street in Seattle

TICKETS: Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday matinees, \$25 and \$27; Friday and Saturday evenings, \$29 and \$32; Wednesday and Thursday previews, \$19 and \$21; Student/Senior discount of \$2 off per ticket. Group rates are available. For tickets contact Taproot Theatre's box office at (206) 781-9707, [box@taproottheatre.org](mailto:box@taproottheatre.org) or Ticketmaster at (206) 292-ARTS.

SCHEDULE: Wednesday and Thursday 7:30 PM, Friday and Saturday 8:00 PM, Saturday Matinee 2:00 PM

### CALENDAR:

Wed.	Jan. 31	7:30 PM	Preview
Thurs.	Feb. 1	7:30 PM	Preview
Fri.	Feb. 2	8:00PM	<b>Opening Night with Reception</b>
Sat.	Feb. 3	2:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 3	8:00 PM	
Wed.	Feb. 7	7:30 PM	<b>PWYC Performance, Post play discussion</b>
Thurs.	Feb. 8	7:30 PM	
Fri.	Feb. 9	8:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 10	2:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 10	8:00 PM	
Wed.	Feb. 14	7:30 PM	<b>Post play discussion with Expert Panel</b>
Thurs.	Feb. 15	7:30 PM	
Fri.	Feb. 16	8:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 17	2:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 17	8:00 PM	
Wed.	Feb. 21	7:30 PM	<b>Post play discussion</b>
Thurs.	Feb. 22	7:30 PM	
Fri.	Feb. 23	8:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 24	2:00 PM	
Sat.	Feb. 24	8:00 PM	
Wed.	Feb. 28	7:30 PM	<b>Post play discussion</b>
Thurs.	March 1	7:30 PM	
Fri.	March 2	8:00 PM	
Sat.	March 3	2:00 PM	
Sat.	March 3	8:00 PM	<b>Closing Night</b>

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